

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 CU-04 HA-05 /068 W
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R 240930Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6369
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 1086

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ID, SOPN
SUBJECT: THE SITUATION IN INDONESIA; UPDATE II

REF: JAKARTA 0939 (DTG 231025Z JAN 78)

1. SUMMARY. JAKARTA REMAINS QUIET, WITH LITTLE SIGN OF
ACTIVITY ON THE MAJOR UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES. A SEVENTH PAPER
HAS BEEN BANNED, BUT ANOTHER REPORTEDLY NEGOTIATED ITSELF OUT
OF A SUSPENSION. ADDITIONAL ARRESTS HAVE BEEN MADE OUTSIDE
JAKARTA BUT THE NUMBER STILL IN DETENTION IS PROBABLY
RELATIVELY SMALL. ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE SOURCE, THE
MILITARY IS STILL VERY TENSE AND DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN
ORDER, EVEN AT SOME COST IN TERMS OF INDONESIA'S INTER-
NATIONAL IMAGE. END SUMMARY.

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2. THERE HAS BEEN NO ESSENTIAL CHANGE IN THE SITUATION
IN JAKARTA. STUDENTS REPORTEDLY CANCELLED GATHERINGS
SCHEDULED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF INDONESIA (UI) AND
CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY (UKI) FOR JANUARY 23 AND 24 IN THE
FACE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CLEAR DETERMINATION TO KEEP THE
LID ON. AN EMBASSY OFFICER THIS AFTERNOON TOURED THE
ENVIRONS OF SEVERAL OF THE MAJOR UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES IN

JAKARTA AND FOUND THEM QUIET (MOST SCHOOLS ARE IN RECESS) AND ALMOST DESERTED. AN EXCEPTION WAS THE STILL IN-SESSION TRISAKTI UNIVERSITY, IN JAKARTA'S EASTERN SUBURBS, WHERE A NORMAL STUDENT DAY, COMPLETE WITH CASUALLY STROLLING GROUPS OF STUDENTS CARRYING BOOKS AND BRIEFCASES, SEEMED IN PROGRESS. THE ONLY EXTRA SECURITY VISIBLE WAS ALSO AT TRISAKTI, WHERE FOUR ARMORED CARS AND ONE TRUCKLOAD OF ARMED TROOPS WERE PARKED ADJACENT TO THE CAMPUS.

3. A SEVENTH NEWSPAPER, THE MINOR AFTERNOON DAILY POS SORE HAS BEEN BANNED, BUT ANOTHER, POS SORE'S MORNING COMPANION POS KOTA, WAS GIVEN A LAST MINUTE REPRIEVE AND PERMITTED TO CONTINUE PUBLISHING. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE PRESS AND GOVERNMENT SOURCES, POS KOTA WAS GIVEN A BANISHMENT NOTICE BY KOPKAMTIB EARLY ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 23 BUT SUCCEEDED IN CONVINCING THE GOVERNMENT TO RESCIND THE BAN, ON THE PROMISE THAT THE PAPER WOULD NOT PRINT ANYTHING POLITICALLY PROVOCATIVE.

4. MORE ARRESTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED BY SEVERAL SOURCES IN THE MAJOR CITIES OUTSIDE JAKARTA, WITH THE JAVA-WIDE TOTAL BY SOME ACCOUNTS NOW REACHING ABOUT 300 (ABOUT A THIRD OF THEM IN JAKARTA). JUDGING BY THE JAKARTA EXPERIENCE, HOWEVER, THE GREAT BULK OF THOSE DETAINED HAVE PROBABLY ALREADY BEEN RELEASED.
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5. DESPITE THE RELATIVE QUIET, THE MILITARY REMAINS ON ALERT IN JAKARTA AND PRESUMABLY ELSEWHERE. CSIS STAFFER LIM BIAN KIE, WHO ATTENDED A MEETING WITH SENIOR MILITARY LEADERS LAST EVENING, FOUND THEM EXTREMELY TENSE AND DETERMINED TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN ORDER, EVEN AT THE RISK OF FURTHER DAMAGE TO INDONESIA'S INTERNATIONAL IMAGE.

6. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT VISIT OF YUGOSLAV VICE PRESIDENT HAS CAUSED POSTPONEMENT OF FONDEPT BRIEFINGS FOR FOREIGN AMBASSADORS AND FOREIGN PRESS PREPRESENTATIVES ON CURRENT SITUATION TO JANUARY 25 OR 26.
MASTERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 24 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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